



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1949.

INDIAN CONDITIONS ON ALASKA ISLANDS TO BE STUDIED

A committee sponsored by the Department of the Interior for the "factual study of the living conditions and human problems of the natives in the Pribilof Islands and the various other islands in the Bering Sea" will leave Nome, Alaska, September 25 on the Bureau of Indian Affairs vessel North Star, the Department announced today.

The study was recommended by the Indian Advisory Committee for the Department of the Interior. The results of the study are expected to serve as a basis for improvements in the social and economic conditions of the natives -- conditions of health, education, employment, income, etc.

The committee is made up of the following: From the Fish and Wildlife Service, Albert M. Day, and Assistant General Manager of the Pribilof Islands Clarence Olson; from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Commissioner John R. Nichols, and Superintendent of the Alaska Native Service Don C. Foster, and Lawrence Stevens; from the Indian Advisory Committee, Mark Dowber; and from the University of Alaska at Fairbanks, L. T. Oldroyd.

Senator O'Mahoney, Chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, and Congressman J. H. Peterson, Chairman of the House Public Lands Committee, were invited to participate in the study but were unable to go.

The itinerary of the party includes: native communities on King Island, St. Lawrence Island, Nunivak Island in the Bering Sea, and St. Paul and St. George Islands in the Pribilof group, and the native villages of Makushin, Unalaska and Akutan in the Aleutians.

X X X